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7 July 2014

Los Angeles County Fish and Game Commission
500 West Temple Street, Room B-50
Los Angeles, California 90012

Re: Restoration Tools Grant

Dear Commissioners,

The tools and nets we have been able to purchase thanks to your support have been well used! Over 400 student volunteers have contributed over 1000 hours to the crayfish removal project in topanga Creek. This has not only provided reduced competition for food in trout refugia pools, but has also provided a unique opportunity for our Watershed Steward Interns to conduct an experiminet comparing the benthic macroinvertebrate community diversity and abundance in the removal reach, as compared to an adjacent reach where crayfish remain.

The lopper and hand weeders have also been put to great use. We have had over 50 volunteers participate in several invasive plant removal and native oak planting events. In August, the tools will be used to assist a local Eagle Scout project. In September 2014, we anticipate having over 300 UCLA freshman help us with a big arundo removal effort.

All of this effort has made a positive difference in the health of Topanga Creek. We so appreciate all your support. Attached are a few photos of the tools at work!

Gratefully,



Rosi Dagit, Sr. Conservation Biologist

Planting Oaks at the Topanga Community Club January 2014





RESOURCE
CONSERVATION DISTRICT
OF THE
SANTA MONICA MOUNTAINS

Earth Day Creek Clean Up And Arundo Removal April 2014



Crayfish Removal Project October 2013– March 2014





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Re: Malibu Creek Dive Equipment Grant

Dear Commissioners,

I apologize for the delayed summary of expenses and our sincere gratitude for this grant support. We were able to stretch the budget of \$5,135 to provide sufficient replacement creek shoes, wetsuits, dive hoods, gloves and lights for the whole Malibu crew. Thanks to some discounts from our vendors, we even were able to replace some very worn out shoes for Topanga creek snorkeling as well.

I can't tell you how much we appreciate wetsuits without holes and shoes that stick to the rocks. It makes the whole snorkel effort not only safer, but much more comfortable! Our monthly surveys in Malibu have been rewarded with sighting a total of 4 anadromous adult steelhead. Unfortunately, the connection to the ocean bermed up in April, so they are all stuck in the creek until the rains come in the fall. One we observed in Malibu Lagoon in May, which was the first time a steelhead has been documented in the restored lagoon area, or anywhere in the lagoon for that matter.

Thank you so much for your continued support of our efforts to monitor and protect these amazing anadromous fish. Thought you might enjoy the attached photos of the fish.

Gratefully,

Rosi Dagit, Sr. Conservation Biologist

Steelhead in Malibu Lagoon May 2014



Steelhead in Malibu Creek May 2014

